



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER LIGHT ATTACK WING ONE  
NAVAL AIR STATION  
CECIL FIELD, FLORIDA 32215-0122

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7 MAR 1990

From: Commander, Light Attack Wing 1  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington  
D. C. 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command History for Commander, Light Attack Wing ONE - 1989

1. As required by reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
D. M. HENDRICKSON

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## COMMAND HISTORY FOR COMMANDER, LIGHT ATTACK WING ONE - 1989

### I. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

A. MISSION. Commander, Light Attack Wing ONE (CLAW-1) is a "type wing commander", providing U.S. Atlantic Fleet Commanders with Light Attack Squadrons (flying A-7E Corsair II aircraft), Strike-Fighter Squadrons (flying F/A-18 Hornet aircraft) and an Adversary Squadron (flying A-4 Skyhawk and F-16 Falcon aircraft). CLAW-1 exercises administrative and operational control over two Fleet Replacement Squadrons (VFA-106 and VAQ-33), one Adversary Squadron (VF-45), one Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (VAQ-33), ten (10) F/A-18 squadrons and four (4) A-7E squadrons. CLAW-1 is responsible for the shorebased operations, administrative, training, readiness and material condition inspections of the WING consisting of over 350 officer, 3500 sailors and 253 aircraft. The training and support provided by CLAW-1 ensures maximum combat readiness of the four (4) fleet A-7E squadrons and the ten (10) fleet F/A-18 squadrons during shore-based operations, while they are under the direct operational and administrative control of their respective Carrier Air Wing Commanders.

#### b. ORGANIZATION.

(1) CLAW-1 is a major type wing and reports directly to Commander, Strike-Fighter Wings, Atlantic, who is the Functional Wing Commander reporting directly to Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic. The following units come under the cognizance of CLAW-1:

- VFA 106 "Gladiators" -- East Coast's F/A-18 Fleet Replacement Squadron.

- VF-45 "Blackbirds" -- VFA/VA adversary squadron based at NAS Key West, Florida. One of four Navy Adversary squadrons providing Dissimilar Air Combat Maneuvering (DACM) training for East Coast TACAIR crews. The squadron also maintains one T-39D in logistical support of the Commander, U.S. Forces Caribbean.

- VAQ-33 "Firebirds" -- Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron based at NAS Key West, Florida. Conducts operational and training electronic warfare missions in support of fleet operations for second and third fleet air and surface units. Additional employment includes A-3 FRS/FRAMP readiness and training responsibilities for flight crews and maintenance personnel, including carrier qualifications.

- Ten fleet F/A-18 squadrons: VFA-15 and VFA-87 (CVW-8); VFA-81 and VFA-83 (CVW-17); VFA-82 and VFA-86 (CVW-1); VFA-131 and VFA-136 (CVW-7); VFA-132 and VFA-137 (CVW-13).

- Four fleet A-7E squadrons: VA-37 and VA-105 (CVW-6); VA-46 and VA-72 (CVW-3).

(2) The Wing was commanded by CAPT Dean M. Hendrickson. A biography and photograph of CAPT Hendrickson, as well as a staff directory, are included.

(3) CLAW-1 is permanently headquartered at NAS Cecil Field in

Jacksonville, Florida, where it has been since its commissioning in 1970.

(4) The tailcode of aircraft assigned to CLAW-1 is AD (Alpha Delta).

c. Miscellaneous:

(1) VFA-106 completed five years and 79,630 major accident-free hours.

(2) Three A-7 squadrons - over five years Class "A" mishap free.

(3) Four F/A-18 squadrons - over five years Class "A" mishap free.

(4) Light Attack/Strike-Fighter hours: 88,804

(5) Highest Full Mission Capable (FMC) rates in TACAIR Navy.

(6) Highest retention rates for any type wing.

(7) Deployed eight (8) FMC squadrons to the Mediterranean theater of operations and four (4) FMC squadrons to the Indian Ocean.

II. CHRONOLOGY 1989

JANUARY: Conducted Admat Inspection on VFA-106 Det Fallon, NV.

VFA-15 and VFA-87 deployed aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt.

VFA-131 deployed to Nellis AFB for Red Flag.

VF-45 hosted VFA-81 PRE-SFARP at Key West.

VF-45 hosted VFA-83 PRE-SFARP at Key West.

FEBRUARY: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-81.

VA-37 and VA-105 deployed to Roosevelt Roads, then returned to conduct AARP at Cecil.

VFA-136 hosted by VF-45 for SFARP.

VA-46 awarded COMNAVAIRLANT "E" for A-7 aircraft.

VFA-15 awarded COMNAVAIRLANT "E" for FA-18 aircraft.

MARCH: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-106.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-83.

Conducted pre-cruise material condition audit on VFA-137.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VFA-83

VFA-131 hosted by VF-45 for SFARP



VFA-81 deployed to Nellis AFB for Red Flag exercise.

APRIL:

Conducted mid-cruise maintenance/material condition audit on VFA-15.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-82.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-86.

Conducted mid-cruise maintenance/material condition audit on VFA-87.

VA-46 and VA-72 deployed to Roosevelt Roads, then conducted AARP at Cecil.

VA-37 and VA-105 deployed to NAS Fallon for AIRWING WEPS DET.

Coordinated program and facilities for Blue Angels Air Show at Cecil Field.

VFA-83 deployed to Nellis AFB for Red Flag.

MAY:

Conducted pre-cruise material condition audit on VFA-132.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VFA-106.

VFA-81 conducted Misslex at Roosevelt Roads.

VFA-83 deployed to Vermont for DACT with Air National Guard.

VFA-82 and VFA-86 deployed aboard USS America.

JUNE:

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VA-46.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-106.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-131.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-136.

VFA-83 hosted by VF-45 for SFARP at NAS Key West.

VFA-131 and VFA-136 conducted AARP at Cecil Field.

VFA-132 and VFA-137 deployed aboard USS Coral Sea.

JULY:

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VF-45.

Conducted post-cruise material condition audit on VFA-15.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of Operations Maintenance Department NAS, Key West (OMDKW).

Conducted post-cruise material condition audit on VFA-87.

Conducted ADMAT Re-Inspection on VFA-106 Det Fallon, NV.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VFA-87 and VFA-15.

VFA-81 hosted by VF-45 for SFARP at NAS Key West.

VA-37 and VA-105 aboard USS Forrestal for advanced phase.

VFA-15 and VFA-87 returned from deployment.

AUGUST: Conducted pre-cruise material condition audit on VA-37.

COMSTRKFIGHTWINGSLANT conducted an ADMAT Inspection on CLAW-1.

VA-46 and VA-72 deployed to Fallon for AIRWING Weapons DET.

VFA-81 and VFA-83 commenced AARP at Cecil Field.

VFA-15 and VFA-87 deployed to Roosevelt Roads.

SEPTEMBER: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VA-72.

Conducted pre-cruise material condition audit on VA-105.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VF-45.

VFA-15 and VFA-87 conducted HFAST at Cecil Field.

Coordinated and sponsored POW/MIA Memorial Day.

OCTOBER: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VAQ-33.

Conducted post-cruise material condition audit on VFA-132.

VFA-81 and VFA-83 deployed to Fallon for AIRWING Weapons DET.

VFA-15 and VFA-87 conducted AARP at Cecil Field.

VFA-132 and VFA-137 returned from deployment.

NOVEMBER: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-81.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-83.

Conducted post-cruise material condition audit on VFA-137.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VFA-137 and VFA-132.

VA-37 and VA-105 deployed aboard USS Forrestal.

VFA-82 and VFA-86 returned from deployment.

VFA-87 hosted by VF-45 for SFARP at Key West.

VFA-137 deployed to El Centro on Weapons DET.

DECEMBER: Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-106.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-82.

Conducted semiannual material condition audit (SAM) of VFA-86.

Conducted ADMAT Inspection on VFA-136.

VFA-81 and VFA-83 deployed to Roosevelt Roads for Misslex/Orange Air.

VFA-132 deployed to Nellis AFB.

III. NARRATIVE: Light Attack Wing ONE continued to lead tactical aviation communities in every measurable area. Innovations in tactics, maintenance practices and personnel programs ensured each Light Attack/Strike-Fighter Squadrons remained at the tip of strike warfare's sword.



**CAPTAIN DEAN MOFFET HENDRICKSON, JR.**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

Captain Hendrickson was born in (b) (6) and resided in (b) (6) for the majority of his pre-navy life. Following his graduation from the University of California at Davis in 1966, he entered the Aviation Officer Candidate Program and was commissioned in June 1967 and designated a Naval Aviator in November 1968.

In August 1969, he reported to Attack Squadron ONE SEVEN TWO after completing A-4 Replacement Pilot Training with Attack Squadron FOUR FOUR at N.A.S. Cecil Field. His first sea tour included a Vietnam deployment aboard the USS SHANGRI-LA.

Subsequent duty assignments included Flight Instructor and Maintenance Division Officer with Training Squadron TWO FOUR at N.A.S. Chase Field; Catapult Officer aboard the USS ROOSEVELT; and Maintenance Officer/Walleye Project Officer at the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California.

In 1978 he entered the "Corsair Community", joining the Attack Squadron EIGHT TWO 'Marauders', and completed Mediterranean, Indian Ocean and North Atlantic deployments aboard the USS NIMITZ. Leaving the 'Marauders', he reported to the Naval War College as a student in July 1981. In December 1982, he reported to Attack Squadron FOUR SIX, aboard the USS AMERICA as Executive Officer and later served as the 'Clansmen' Commanding Officer from June 1983 until January 1986. Following a year with the Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Virginia, as Staff Program Planner, Captain Hendrickson assumed command of Attack Squadron ONE SEVEN FOUR, the East-coast A-7E Fleet Replacement Squadron. In April 1988 he became the 14th Commander of Light Attack Wing ONE at N.A.S. Cecil Field, Florida.

Captain Hendrickson has earned the Meritorious Service Medal, seven Air Medals, one Navy Commendation Medal and various other Campaign Ribbons and Awards. In addition, he has accumulated over 4500 flight hours.

Captain Hendrickson and his wife (b) (6) with their daughter (b) (6)

